

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

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FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3401

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP, CH

SUBJECT: ALBERT-RHODES VISIT TO PRC

REF: STATE 49070

1. USLO OFFICERS ANDERSON AND PERITO CALLED ON MFA NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS DEPUTY DIVISION DIRECTOR CHAO CHI-HUA MARCH 17 TO DISCUSS ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ALBERT-RHODES VISIT TO THE PRC. CHAO AND MFA HAD ALREADY RECEIVED NOTIFICATION OF THE VISIT FROM PRCLO AND SENT BACK ITS SUGGESTIONS ON A POSSIBLE SCHEDULE FOR THE DELEGATION. USLO OFFICERS RAISED THE CONGRESSMEN'S REQUEST FOR TELEVISION COVERAGE AND REPEATED THE SUGGESTIONS FOR A POSSIBLE ITINERARY WITH EXIT VIA HONG KONG CONTAINED REFTEL.

2. ANDERSON BEGAN THE MEETING BY INFORMING CHAO OF OUR INTENTION TO HAVE A USLO OFFICER ACCOMPANY THE DELEGATION. CHAO REPLIED THAT MFA HAD NOT PLANNED FOR A USLO ESCORT, BUT WOULD TAKE NOTE OF OUR INTENTION AND REPORT BACK. ANDERSON REMINDED CHAO THAT USLO HAD PROVIDED ESCORTS FOR PREVIOUS CODELS AND SAID DEPARTMENT APPEARED TO BE PLANNING ON USLO ESCORT.

COMMENT: DESPITE CHAO'S RESPONSE WE DO NOT FEEL THE CHINESE WILL OBJECT TO USLO PROVIDING AN ESCORT. THE DEPARTMENT SHOULD, HOWEVER, CONTACT PRCLO AND AGAIN MAKE CLEAR OUR NEED TO HAVE A USLO OFFICER ACCOMPANY THE DELEGATION.

3. ON THE QUESTION OF TELEVISION COVERAGE OF THE VISIT, CHAO SAID

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MFA FELT THIS WOULD "CREATE DIFFICULTIES" AND PRCLO HAD BEEN

INSTRUCTED TO PASS THIS VIEW TO THE CONGRESSMEN. COMMENT: THIS
REPLY CAN BE TAKEN AS A REFUSAL BY THE CHINESE AND WE DOUBT ANYTHING
CAN BE GAINED BY PURSUING THE REQUEST FURTHER.

4. IN CLOSING CHAO SAID MFA HAD RECEIVED ONLY A PARTIAL NAME LIST
OF THE DELEGATION AND WOULD NEED A FULL LIST, PASSPORT INFORMATION AND

AIRCRAFT IDENTIFICATION. WE PROVIDED CHAO WITH THE NAMES WE HAVE
BUT WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S SUPPLYING THE OTHER INFORMATION
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
BUSH

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